

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 and 19-22 are pending. The Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks.

Claims 1-15 and 19-21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Behme (Laziness Happens, 1996). The Examiner stated essentially that Behme teaches all the limitations of claims 1-15 and 19-21.

Claim 1 claims, *inter alia*, "a document template generator for applying said control information in generating a template document structure comprising item locations designated for ordered data items." Claim 13 claims, *inter alia*, "a document template generator for expanding said expandable document structure to provide a template document structure comprising item locations designated for hierarchically ordered data items." Claim 19 claims, *inter alia*, "expanding said expandable document structure to provide a template document structure comprising item locations designated for ordered data items."

Behme teaches a method for shaping "information extracted from a database with this language and some style sheets (DSSSL and CSS, see [2]), particularly to create several HTML documents from the stock of data" (see paragraph 5). Behme does not teach a document template generator for...generating a template document structure comprising item locations designated for ordered data items essentially as claimed in claims 1 and 13 or expanding an expandable document structure to provide a template document structure comprising item locations designated for ordered data items, essentially as claimed in claim 19. Behme's style sheet specifications transforms data and a DTD directly into an HTML document (see DSSSL as HTML Generator, paragraph 1).

The style sheet specifications taught by Behme do not include item locations as claimed in claims 1, 13 and 19. For example, as shown in Behme's Listing 4:

; ----- the issue

```
(element issue
  (make sequence
    (make element gi: "h3"
      attributes: (cons (list "class" "ausg")
        '()))
    (literal (getmonth
      (string->number (attribute-string
        "MONAT"))) monate "de")))

  (make element gi: "dl"
    (process-matching-children 'article))

  (make empty-element gi: "hr"))
```

the style sheet used to generate the HTML document includes unexpanded subroutines for traversing data, such as "getmonth". A subroutine for traversing data is not an item location. Thus, Behme does not teach a document template generator for generating a template document structure comprising item locations, essentially as claimed in claims 1 and 13 or expanding said expandable document structure as claimed in claim 19.

Claims 2-12 depend from claim 1. Claims 14 and 15 depend from claim 13.

Claims 20 and 21 depend from claim 19. The dependent claims are believed to be allowable for at least the reasons given for the independent claims, respectively. At least claim 7 is believed to be allowable for additional reasons.

Claim 7 claims, "wherein said template document comprises a row and column tabular structure of item locations and said document processor searches said information repository for corresponding data elements in one or more of, (a) row order and (b) column order. "

Behme teaches a well-formed XML document, as shown in Listing 2. Behme does not teach that a “template document comprises a row and column tabular structure of item locations” as claimed in claim 7. Behme’s XML document contains the data (see iX-Tract text box found below the section “Literature”). According to Behme, the information contained in the XML document is extracted by the style sheet to form the HTML documents. A database, such as an XML document as taught by Behme is not a template document; data is extracted from the XML document and put in an HTML document using the style sheet. Thus, the XML document is not a template document, much less a template document comprising a row and column tabular structure of item locations, essentially as claimed in claim 7.

The Examiner’s reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

New claim 22 depends from claim 19. The dependent claim is believed to be allowable for at least the reasons given for claim 19. Claim 22 is believed to be allowable for additional reasons.

Claim 22 claims, “each item location corresponds to a field of a database including data items, the method further comprising deleting an item location from the template document structure upon determining that the item location corresponds to a field of the database having no value.”

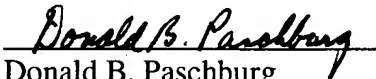
Behme teaches forming an HTML document from a style sheet and database (see paragraph 5). Behme does not teach “deleting an item location from the template document structure upon determining that the item location corresponds to a field of the database having no value” as claimed in claim 22. Behme’s method generates HTML documents directly from style sheets. Nowhere does Behme teach deleting an item

location from the template document structure as claimed in claim 22. Therefore, claim 22 is believed to be allowable over Behme.

For the forgoing reasons, the application, including claims 1-15 and 19-22, is believed to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: April 5, 2005


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